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9 April 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, FE Division

SUBJECT: All-Weather Aerial Resupply Capability

1. This Staff has investigated various available systems that will provide an all-weather capability to conduct aerial resupply missions. To provide this capability, a beacon, for use as a navigational aid and means by which drops can be made safely [] during dark of the moon is required. The added capability of dropping under IFR conditions, with a reasonable degree of accuracy is highly desirable.

2. Lt. Col. Prouty, Hqs., USAF, was contacted by [] for information regarding existing USAF radar and offset bombing systems in an effort to determine the feasibility of dropping under IFR conditions. Col. Prouty suggested that, through his office, the USAF be requested to:

- a. Extend its support beyond the current terminal dates.
- b. Provide an aerial delivery capability under all-weather conditions, with particular reference to operations commencing in June of this year.

3. Having made these requests, Col. Prouty stated that we could plan on continuing our aerial resupply and that the USAF would provide the system or systems necessary to provide the capability. In this respect the operational conditions under which the system or systems are expected to operate as well as the sterility restrictions on the equipment that can be used should be spelled out in detail.

4. Col. Prouty also suggested a single point of contact within the Agency to avoid confusion and duplication. In this particular instance there are a number of Agency components interested including []

[] It is recommended that we in CIA follow

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the procedures established by DOD for relationships on current operations and that Col. Prouty work through General Erskine's office with [] as liaison into this office, [] who will insure that all interested Agency components are kept currently advised.

5. With regard to providing an immediate future (April and May 1959) beacon capability, the following actions on the part of Agency elements to assist in providing the desired capability are recommended:

a. That OC complete development and test of the low frequency beacon being designed for use in conjunction with the []

b. OC provide FE with the three available []

c. OC make available to FE the [] aircraft receiver systems now in stock and, when required, assist in their installation and test in operational type aircraft.

d. Make items a and b above available for training purposes in the ZI as well as for operational use, if required.

e. That the [] beacon sponsored by DPD and now in the prototype stage be investigated for suitability at altitudes of 3 - 5,000 feet above terrain.

6. Further, it is recommended that the actions outlined in paragraphs 2 and 4 above be adopted in order to insure that the Agency has an all-weather delivery capability.

PP/PMD/LOR:pvf

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Chief
Paramilitary Division, PP

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